

□ 1710

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes today on account of traveling with the Vice President on official business to Louisiana. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 279, "nay" on rollcall No. 280, "nay" on rollcall No. 281, and "yea" on rollcall No. 282.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the House chamber for votes Wednesday, May 24. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 277, "yea" on rollcall No. 278, and "yea" on rollcall No. 282.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, the man who has served as a father figure to me for the past twenty years has taken a turn for the worse in his battle against cancer and his health is rapidly deteriorating. As such, I will be returning home and will miss votes today, Wednesday, May 24, and for the balance of the week. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yea" on rollcall No. 274, "yea" on rollcall No. 275, "yea" on rollcall No. 276, "yea" on rollcall No. 277, "yea" on rollcall No. 278, "nay" on rollcall No. 279, "nay" on rollcall No. 280, "nay" on rollcall No. 281, and "yea" on rollcall No. 282.

PERMITTING OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO BE TAKEN WHILE THE HOUSE IS IN ACTUAL SESSION ON A DATE DESIGNATED BY THE SPEAKER

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of House Resolution 350, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 350

Resolved, That on such date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives may designate, official photographs of the House may be taken while the House is in actual session. Payment for the costs associated with taking, preparing, and distributing such photographs may be made from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR AN EVENT TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHAMEHA I

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on House Administration be discharged from further consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution 14, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 14

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR EVENT TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHAMEHA I.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used on June 11, 2017 for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the event described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

The concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

OUR VETERANS ARE REAL HEROES

(Mr. BISHOP of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BISHOP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank our brave servicemen and -women who have put their lives on the line every day to protect us. Since the founding of our Nation, millions of Americans have proudly served and sacrificed in preservation of our democracy.

Our veterans have paid a tremendous price to defend our freedom, yet leaving the battlefield does not always mean their battles are over. It is, therefore, our duty as a nation to ensure that our servicemembers are properly and respectfully cared for when they return home.

Our veterans are real-life heroes living quietly among us. They are the patriots who were willing to give up everything—everything they had—for their God, their country, and for one another.

The Holy Scripture tells us, in John 15:13: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." This weekend, let's call to mind all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. It is because of their valor, strength, and bravery that I stand here before you today. They selflessly put their lives on the line to fight for us, and I am proud to continue fighting for them.

Our men and women of the military represent the very best of America. On behalf of Michigan's Eighth Congressional District, we are eternally grateful for their service.

Happy and safe Memorial Day weekend.

□ 1715

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S BUDGET

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, it has been said that a budget is more than a series of statements or line items. It is really a statement of your values and of your priorities.

If that is true, then Donald Trump's anti-working families budget shows he doesn't understand the challenges facing honest, hardworking Americans. Let's be clear: the Trump budget was written by some of the wealthiest Americans for the benefit of the wealthiest Americans.

This budget is a major setback for the middle class, and it makes life even harder for anyone who is trying to punch a ticket to the middle class.

This budget eliminates hundreds of millions of dollars for job creation, it zeros out funding for workforce training and good-paying manufacturing jobs, and it makes it even harder for young people to succeed by cutting teacher training, eliminating after-school programs, and making it harder to pay off student loans.

The American people deserve better. This is not a budget that any Member of Congress should be comfortable supporting.

Democrats are speaking out today against the Trump budget. It is time Republicans do the same.

RECOGNIZING PASTOR TIM BURT'S RETIREMENT

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Pastor Tim Burt on his retirement. Pastor Burt has a long record of service to his community.

He founded American Infant Care Products, which came up with the fold-down infant changing tables found in many restrooms today, helping families of all sorts by providing a convenient way to care for their children.

But he also has now served as associate pastor at Living Word Christian Center in Brooklyn Park since 1989, establishing a small group ministry. In this capacity, Pastor Burt oversaw visitor and public relations, pastoral care, and leadership and volunteer departments. His dedication to our community has certainly inspired many Minnesotans over the years.

Pastor Burt also served as the Minnesota State director for Christians United for Israel, where he developed a statewide network of leaders passionate about Israel, and has led a trip of fellow pastors to that country.

Mr. Speaker, as we recognize Pastor Tim Burt's retirement, we are extremely grateful and proud of the work he has done. I wish he and Renee the very best in their future endeavors.

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourn today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MITCHELL). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maine?

There was no objection.

(Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I stand to support the lifesaving work of drug courts and veterans treatment courts during this National Drug Court Month, and to honor a constituent of mine with an incredible success story.

These courts are an indispensable resource to law enforcement and other community stakeholders impacted by the opioid epidemic, claiming the lives of 91 Americans each and every day.

Timothy Wynn is a veterans treatment court graduate from my district, whom I had the honor of meeting today. When the decorated marine returned home from Iraq in 2003, he turned to alcohol and other substances to ease his transition back into society. His substance use escalated. He found himself arrested seven times, and spent a year of his life in prison away from his young family. After his final arrest, Tim found the Philadelphia Veterans Treatment Court, where he was given the accountability he needed while also connecting him to the services he had earned.

Today, Tim is reunited with his family and continues his mission as the mentor coordinator for the court where he once stood as a participant.

There are drug court and veterans treatment court graduates just like Tim across the Nation. I call on my colleagues to support these graduates and the good work of drug courts and veterans treatment courts.

(Ms. TENNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the AbilityOne Program and its countless contributions to our communities and to people with disabilities.

Through this important program, community-based nonprofit agencies across the Nation have employed more than 45,000 people who are blind or differently abled. The AbilityOne Program harnesses the purchasing power of the Federal Government to buy products from these agencies, which have made it their mission to employ and train the blind and disabled.

Established in 1983, the program continues to empower those with disabili-

ties by providing gainful employment to a segment of our population who typically experience one of the highest rates of unemployment in the Nation. These critically important employment opportunities have led to increased independence and enhanced quality of life for scores of disabled Americans.

Recently, I had the opportunity to tour an AbilityOne participant in the 22nd District of New York: Human Technologies Corporation located in Utica. This facility employs nearly 600 people on an annual basis.

As a critical part of our community, I am honored to serve this AbilityOne agency and their team of dedicated employees, who continue to make a significant economic impact on our region through the creation of quality products and services to government agencies across all sectors.

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, a young man in my district was killed in what appears to be a vicious crime, probably motivated by hate.

U.S. Army Second Lieutenant Richard W. Collins, III, was just days away from graduating from Bowie State University. Richard stood on the threshold of what promised to be a life of service to his country.

He has been remembered by family and friends as a kind soul, an angel, and a national treasure.

All of us across Maryland were shocked and devastated when we learned of the attack that took his life—an unprovoked attack at a bus station waiting for an Uber to pick him up. An individual came along and asked him to step left—whatever that meant. He said: “No, I won’t.” And he was stabbed in the chest.

We were deeply alarmed to learn that the suspect in Richard’s murder belonged to an alleged online White supremacist group. Richard was African American. Richard’s murderer must be held to account under the full weight of our laws, and, hopefully, he will be.

His life is a reminder of everything that makes our Nation extraordinary. His death is a painful reminder that our work in overcoming hatred in this country is far from over.

I have been keeping Richard’s parents and family in my thoughts and in my prayers this week, and I will continue to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I rise with a very heavy heart to mourn the loss of a young man in my district who was killed over the weekend in a possible hate-crime. U.S. Army Second Lieutenant Richard W. Collins III was just days away from graduating from Bowie State University College of Business when he was stabbed by an assailant while waiting at a bus stop in College Park on the campus of the

University of Maryland. He was there to visit friends and celebrate his having been commissioned as an officer in the Army just two days earlier.

At age twenty-three, Richard stood on the threshold of what promised to be an exciting life of service to his country, and the Army was fortunate to have such a driven and talented young person so eager to be a part of defending our nation. Richard represented the best of the Fifth District, the best of Maryland, and the best of America. All of us across the region were shocked and devastated when we learned of the attack that took his life. We were deeply dismayed as well to learn that the suspect in Richard’s murder belonged to an alleged online white supremacist group with references in its name to Nazism and to the so-called ‘Alt-Right’ movement that espouses xenophobia and racial hatred. The FBI is now investigating, and Richard’s murderer must be held to account under the full weight of our laws.

In viewing this tragedy, it is easy to get caught up in the details of who perpetrated the crime and why. But the real story I wish to share with my colleagues is Richard’s story. The story of a young man who was so proud to put on his Army uniform and had diligently drilled as a member of the ROTC in college. He has been remembered by family and friends as a ‘kind soul,’ an ‘angel,’ and ‘a national treasure.’ The loss of this outstanding young Marylander and young American diminishes us all.

I have been keeping Richard’s parents and extended family in my thoughts and in my prayers these past few days, and I will surely continue to be inspired by his memory for a long time to come. His life is a reminder of everything that makes our nation extraordinary. His death is a painful reminder that the work of banishing hatred from our midst is far from over and will require each and every one of us to share in the task. May God bless the memory of Second Lieutenant Richard W. Collins III and watch over his family and his community in this hour of their grief.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today, the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee passed a bill that I authored, the Nicaraguan Investment and Conditionality Act, the NICA Act.

I thank Chairman DUNCAN and Ranking Member SIREs for working with me to pass this important bipartisan measure that seeks to promote freedom, anticorruption, the rule of law, and supports an independent judiciary system in Nicaragua.

This measure sends a strong message of support to the people of Nicaragua that they are not alone. We in the United States Congress recognize their plight and aspirations for a better future of freedom and opportunity. We share their values of a free and fair electoral system, of justice and liberty